

## CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

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1. A data input device comprising:

a data input surface for detecting a gesture performed thereon by a user and for facilitating recognition of said gesture as corresponding to a particular data input; and a user removable template positioned over said data input surface for dividing said data input surface into a first data input area and a second data input area, wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more first gestures, and wherein said second data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more second gestures.

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2. A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said one or more first gestures correspond to a plurality of handwriting strokes.

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3. A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is a keyboard template wherein a keyboard character is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

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4. A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is an application shortcut launcher template wherein any one of a plurality of applications is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

5. A data input device as recited in Claim 4 wherein said plurality of applications correspond to a predetermined number of previously invoked applications.

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6. A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is an electronic game control template wherein any one of a plurality of electronic game controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

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7. A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is a telephone dialing panel template wherein any one of a plurality of telephone dialing keys is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

8. A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is a music keyboard template wherein any one of a plurality of music keys is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

9. A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is an application interface template wherein any one of a plurality of application interface features is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

10. A data input device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second data input area is a television remote control template wherein any one of a plurality of television controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

5       11. A user removable data input device comprising:  
          a data input surface for detecting a gesture performed thereon by a user and for facilitating recognition of said gesture as corresponding to a particular data input, wherein said data input surface includes a first data input area and a second data input area, wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more first gestures, and wherein said second data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more second gestures, and  
          wherein said user removable data input device is configured to couple to an electronic system and to uncouple from said electronic system.

15      12. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said one or more first gestures correspond to a plurality of handwriting strokes.

13. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said second data input area is a keyboard template wherein a keyboard character is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

20      14. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said second data input area is an application shortcut launcher template wherein any one

of a plurality of applications is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

15. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 14 wherein said

5 plurality of applications correspond to a predetermined number of previously invoked applications.

16. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said

0 second data input area is an electronic game control template wherein any one of a  
5 plurality of electronic game controls is selected by performing said one or more  
10 second gestures.

17. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said

15 second data input area is a telephone dialing panel template wherein any one of a  
plurality of telephone dialing keys is selected by performing said one or more second  
20 gestures.

18. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said

second data input area is a music keyboard template wherein any one of a plurality of  
20 music keys is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

19. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said

second data input area is an application interface template wherein any one of a

plurality of application interface features is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

20. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said  
5 second data input area is a television remote control template wherein any one of a plurality of television controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

21. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 wherein said  
10 electronic system comprises a personal digital assistant.

22. A user removable data input device as recited in Claim 11 further  
comprising a mechanism for automatically configuring said electronic system to  
recognize said user removable data input device.

15 23. An electronic system comprising:

a processor;

a bus coupled to said processor;

20 an electronic display device coupled to said bus;

a memory device coupled to said bus; and

25 a data input device coupled to said bus, said data input device comprising:

a data input surface for detecting a gesture performed thereon by a user and for facilitating recognition of said gesture as corresponding to a particular data input, and

a user removable template positioned over said data input surface for

5 dividing said data input surface into a first data input area and a second data input area, wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more first gestures, and wherein said second data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more second gestures.

24. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said one or more first gestures correspond to a plurality of handwriting strokes.

25. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said second data input area is a keyboard template wherein a keyboard character is selected by 15 performing said one or more second gestures.

26. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said second data input area is an application shortcut launcher template wherein any one of a plurality of applications is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

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27. An electronic system as recited in Claim 26 wherein said plurality of applications correspond to a predetermined number of previously invoked applications.

28. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said second data input area is an electronic game control template wherein any one of a plurality of electronic game controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

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29. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said second data input area is a telephone dialing panel template wherein any one of a plurality of telephone dialing keys is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

30. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said second data input area is a music keyboard template wherein any one of a plurality of music keys is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

31. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said second data input area is an application interface template wherein any one of a plurality of application interface features is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

32. An electronic system as recited in Claim 28 wherein said second data  
20 input area is a television remote control template wherein any one of a plurality of  
television controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

33. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said electronic system comprises a first module and a second module, wherein said first module includes said electronic display device, and wherein said second module includes said data input device.

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34. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said electronic system comprises a personal digital assistant.

35. An electronic system as recited in Claim 23 further comprising one or more communication ports.

36. An electronic system comprising:  
a processor;  
a bus coupled to said processor;  
an electronic display device coupled to said bus;  
a memory device coupled to said bus; and  
a user removable data input device coupled to said bus, said user removable data input device comprising:

20 a data input surface for detecting a gesture performed thereon by a user and for facilitating recognition of said gesture as corresponding to a particular data input, wherein said data input surface includes a first data input area and a second data input area, wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition

of one or more first gestures, and wherein said second data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more second gestures, and

wherein said user removable data input device is configured to couple to said electronic system and to uncouple from said electronic system.

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37. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said one or more first gestures correspond to a plurality of handwriting strokes.

38. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is a keyboard template wherein a keyboard character is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

39. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is an application shortcut launcher template wherein any one of a plurality of applications is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

40. An electronic system as recited in Claim 39 wherein said plurality of applications correspond to a predetermined number of previously invoked applications.

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41. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is an electronic game control template wherein any one of a plurality of electronic game controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

42. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is a telephone dialing panel template wherein any one of a plurality of telephone dialing keys is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

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43. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is a music keyboard template wherein any one of a plurality of music keys is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

44. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is an application interface template wherein any one of a plurality of application interface features is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

45. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said second data input area is a television remote control template wherein any one of a plurality of television controls is selected by performing said one or more second gestures.

46. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said electronic  
20 system comprises a first module and a second module, wherein said first module  
includes said electronic display device, and wherein said second module includes  
said user removable data input device.

47. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said electronic system comprises a personal digital assistant.

48. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 wherein said user removable data input device includes a mechanism for automatically configuring said electronic system to recognize said user removable data input device.

49. An electronic system as recited in Claim 36 further comprising one or more communication ports.